

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 SSO-00 SY-04

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 /033 W
----- 032834

R 051000Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 667

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (ROBERT GIBSON), LA

SUBJECT: W/W ROBERT GIBSON

REF: VIENTIANE 6569

1. IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING PROCEDURAL DELAYS IN CASE, DCM CALLED ON MINISTER OF JUSTICE KHAMKING SOUVANLASAY. HE EXPRESSED EMBASSY'S CONTINUING CONCERN OVER MANNER CASE HAS BEEN HANDLED. HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN SERIOUS VIOLATION OF LAO LAW, NOTABLY GIBSON HAD BEEN HELD WITHOUT CHARGE FOR THREE WEEKS, NO AUTOPSY OF ASSAILANTS' BODIES HAD BEEN MADE AND THERE STILL HAD BEEN NO RECONSTRUCTION OF THE INCIDENT.

2. MINISTER HAD ACCURATELY GUESSED PURPOSE OF VISIT AND HAD REVIEWED CASE AND DISCUSSED IT WITH JUDGE. HE SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTED JUDGE TO PRESS FOR AN ANSWER TO LAWYER'S REQUEST FOR EVIDENCE SUPPORTING HOMICIDE CHARGE. HE READILY ADMITTED THAT NO AUTOPSY HAVING BEEN MADE, POLICE WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE SUCH EVIDENCE. HE ALSO KNEW THAT IMMIGRATION POLICE HAD FORMALLY FOUND THAT GIBSON HAD VALID RESIDENCE PERMIT AT TIME OF HIS ARREST. THUS, ONLY VALID CHARGE WAS ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ARMS WHICH MINISTER DID NOT CONSIDER SERIOUS. CONSEQUENTLY, MINISTER ASKED DCM TO CALL HIM BACK EARLY NEXT WEEK AT WHICH TIME HE HOPED

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TO BE IN A POSITION TO FILE THE CASE ("CLASSE L'AFFAIRE").

HE WAS APPARENTLY EVEN PREWARED TO ALLOW GIBSONH L
REMAIN IN LAOS EVEN THOUGH GIBSON, WE GATHER, WANTS
TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AS SOON AS HE IS RELEASED.

3. WE SHALL INFORM GIBSON'S SON ALLAN THAT WE ARE
HOPEFUL THAT WE MAY OBTAIN HIS FATHER'S RELEASE.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 05 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI06850
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
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